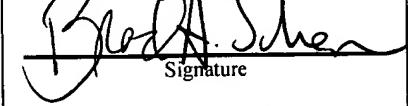


## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: ) Before the Examiner:  
Thuan Pham ) Zeinab E. El-Arini  
 )  
Application Serial No. 09/942,317 ) Group Art Unit 1746  
 )  
Filed August 29, 2001 ) Our Ref.: 8016-548  
 )  
APPARATUS AND METHOD ) January 30, 2004  
FOR CLEANING A PROBE TIP )

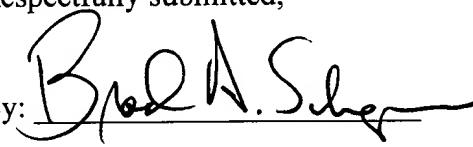
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Brad A. Schepers  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Name of Registered Representative  
  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Signature  
  
January 30, 2004  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Date of Signature

### REQUEST FOR ONE (1) MONTH EXTENSION OF TIME

Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

In response to the first Office Action mailed September 30, 2003, Applicant's attorney requests that the date for responding to the first Office Action be extended one (1) month, up to and including January 30, 2004. The statutory fee of \$110.00 under 37 C.F.R. §1.17(a) for this extension request is enclosed herewith. The U.S. Patent and Trademark Office is authorized to charge any deficiency or apply any overpayment credit to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

Respectfully submitted,

By: 

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